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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/826,894	04/06/2001	Koji Noguchi	35.G2768	3411

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HOAN C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 01/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/826,894	NOGUCHI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	HOAN C. NGUYEN	2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 December 2002.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-3,5,6,9,13 and 16 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 4,7,8,10-12,14,15 and 17-22 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-3,5,6,9,13 and 16 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in–
(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or
(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

1. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kaneko (US6141070A).

In regard to claims 1 and 8-9, Kaneko also further teaches in the third embodiment (Fig. 11, col. 16 lines 45-49) a liquid crystal device comprising

- two substrates 1 and 4;
- nematic liquid crystal 7 sandwiched between said substrates;

wherein the twisted angle of zero degrees (parallel) or of 180 degrees (anti-parallel) (col. 1, lines 39-43 in the background of invention), therefore, the direction of uniaxial orientation (or nematic director) on rubbing alignment layers formed on upper and lower substrates is either parallel or anti-parallel; the zero-twisted nematic type device is also called an Electrically Controlled Birefringence (ECB) type device according to claim 9.

wherein temperature change of the retardation value of said liquid crystal device is reduced by changing a pre-tilt angle of said liquid crystal molecules so as to compensate for change in a birefringence of said nematic liquid crystal due to changes in temperature (col. 11 lines 43-45).

In regard to claims 5, 6 and 18, a liquid crystal device using a normally-white mode with no voltage (this is Normal-White display), wherein the high-voltage side (voltage applied) of the driving voltage is used as black, thereby black is displayed by performing phase compensation between liquid crystal layer and retardation layers according to claim 5.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 2 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of record does not anticipate obvious to one ordinary skill in the art of a liquid crystal display device, with the combination of

- The refractive index anisotropy of liquid crystal composition having the nematic liquid crystal as the primary component at 30°C is 0.150 or more;
- The pre-tilt angle of liquid crystal molecule at 30°C is in a range of 10° to 45° at the substrate interfaces.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on December 9, 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's ONLY arguments are follows:

Kaneko fails to disclose the claimed invention wherein "changing the pre-tilt of liquid crystal cell compensates for a retardation change according to temperature change."

Examiner's responses to Applicants' ONLY arguments are follows:

Kaneko discloses (col. 16 lines 64-67) "When the temperature compensating-type retardation film is used, the retardation value change of the retardation film follows the Δ nd value (the retardation value) change of the liquid crystal cell caused by any temperature change. " Thus, the Δ nd value change of the liquid crystal cell should cause the change in the pre-tilt angle of the liquid crystal cell. The temperature change in pre-tilt angle of the liquid crystal cell according to change of the temperature compensating-type retardation film would operate the liquid crystal display.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

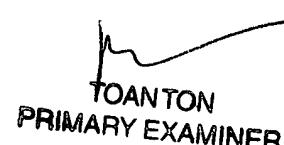
TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HOAN C. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 306-0472. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY:8:00AM-4:30PM.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0530.

HOAN C. NGUYEN
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

chn
January 15, 2003


TOANTON
PRIMARY EXAMINER